



## COMMUNICATION OF ENGAGEMENT (COE)

**The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies**

**Period covered by this COE:**

**From:** 01/01/2022

**To:** 01/01/2024.

### **Part I. Statement of Continue Support by the Director General**

30<sup>th</sup> of January 2024

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that **The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI)** reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

DocuSigned by:

*Karin von Hippel*

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**Dr. Karin Von Hippel**

Director General

21 February 2024



## **Part II. Description of Actions**

RUSI has undertaken the following actions in support of the Global Compact:

- New policies and procedures have been put in place to adequately address risks associated to bribery and corruption. These policies introduced procedures to report gifts and hospitality which exceed certain values, alongside best practices when engaging with public officials. In addition, a Financial Controls policy was introduced to aid in transparency and reporting.
- Project officers received their first compliance training to ensure adequate understanding of these new policies and procedures.
- All new policies were sent to all of RUSI's Staff for awareness and are published in the Institute's SharePoint.
- RUSI redrafted and published its new comprehensive Environmental Policy and is also in the process of adopting a new Sustainability Policy.
- RUSI has also been discussing alternatives to minimise the impact of emissions from flights taken by staff. Some companies which RUSI could potentially partner with and who provide carbon off-setting have been shortlisted and a clearer sustainability strategy will be finalized in the first half of 2024.
- RUSI has improved its due diligence processes to ensure all third parties it engages with respect the UN Global Compact's 10 Principles. These processes are also meant to confirm RUSI's exclusive engagement with third parties whose values align to those of the Institute and its mission.
- RUSI is in the process of updating the details of its funders in its webpage in an effort to increase transparency and will adopt more rigorous due diligence procedures to ensure all new funders meet RUSI's ethical standards.
- In terms of its research RUSI has conducted several projects meant to provide vital information in the fight against corruption, money laundering, illegal trafficking of wildlife, amongst others.



### Part III. Measurements of Outcomes

- 14 members of staff received compliance training.
- 14 different policies were either implemented or updated to ensure their compliance with the UN Global Compact's 10 Principles.
- During 2023 the following publications of RUSI's research were made linked to the UN Global Compact's 10 Principles:

Title of Publication	Date	Author	Principle
"What Ukraine Must Do to Fight Corruption: Lessons from Around the World."	05/04/2023	Liam O'Shea	10
"The Road to Brazil: How do the g20's Actions on Asset Recovery Stack Up?"	17/08/2023	Maria Nizzero and Maria Sofia Reiser	10
"Tackling Corruption by Improving Financial Inclusion in Nigeria."	22/08/2023	Chandana Seshadri	10
"Exploring Mechanisms for the Return of Proceeds of Corruption."	05/12/2023	Maria Nizzero	10
"Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking: An Expanding UK Market"	21/11/2023	Neil Giles and Cathy Haenlein	1, 2 and 4
"Internet Shutdowns: A Human Rights Issue"	10/01/2023	Julia Ryng, Guillemette Ghicherd, Judy Al Saman, Priyanka Choudhury and Angharad Kellett	1 and 2
"Climate Change: Avoiding a Future Intelligence Failure"	18/08/2023	Matt Ince	7, 8 and 9
"Critical Minerals in the Energy Transition: Environmental and Human Security Risks"	14/11/2023	Genevieve Kotarska and Lauren Young	7, 8 and 9



"Defensive Rewilding: Where Military and Environmental Protection Overlap"	20/10/2023	Brian Schmidt	7, 8 and 9
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